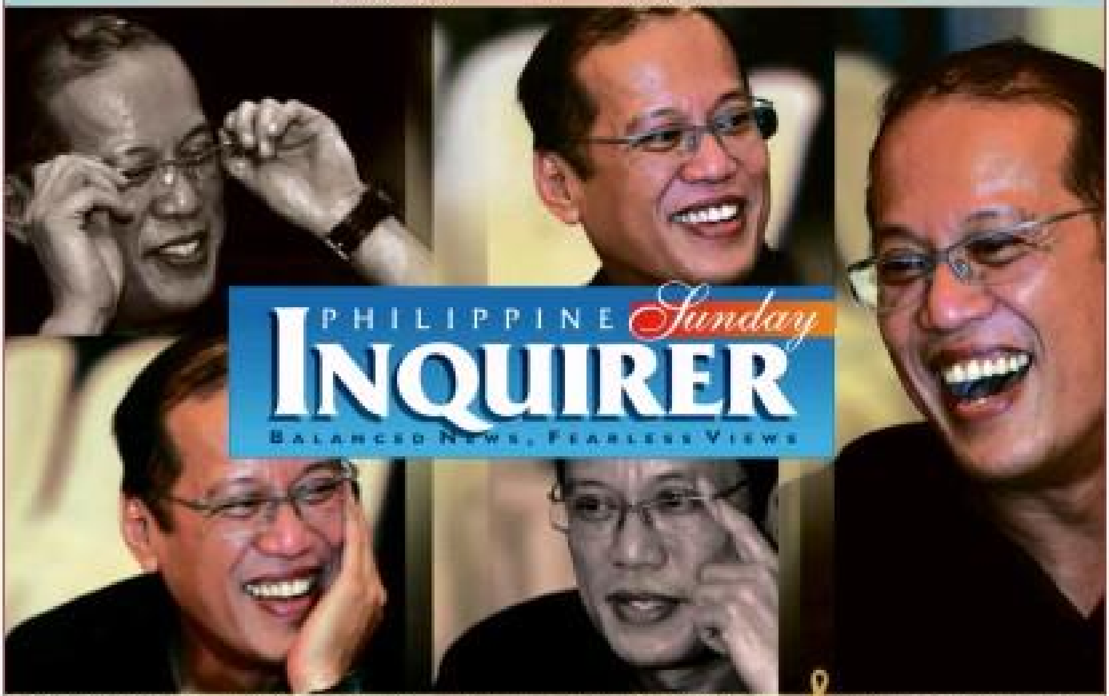
Sunday, June 6, 2010 ★★ Vol. 25 / No. 178



PHILIPPINE Sunday INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

IN THE CUSP OF HISTORY The Inquirer caught Sen. Benigno S. "Noynoy" Aquino III on the eve of his much-deserved six-day break and seized the moment to record the way he laughed, was flat-out relaxed, carefree and cool. A good way to be when one is the hottest topic in town. Early this coming week, Congress is set to proclaim him president-elect of the Republic of the Philippines. Only a year ago, who would have thought that the only son of the martyred Ninoy Aquino and the late former President Cory Aquino would someday become the country's president. The very same thing was said about his mother.

All info bill hopes on Noy

Backers warn GMA will be in House

By Leila B. Salaverria

PROPONENTS AND BACKERS OF THE ALL BUT DEAD Freedom of Information bill are pinning all their hopes on presumptive president-elect Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III.

Speaking yesterday at the Kapihan sa Sulo forum, Quezon Rep. Lorenzo Tañada III expressed confidence that the next President would fully support the measure that seeks to improve transparency in government transactions and to uphold the people's right to know.

"He voted for it in the Senate. He has made it known to me that if it does not pass the 14th Congress, he is willing to support it," Tañada said of Aquino.

He added that he would ask Aquino, his colleague in the Liberal

ALL INFO A6

THE ABSENT

SPEAKER NOGRALES SAID THE FOLLOWING congressmen were absent: 1.Abaya, Joseph Emilio A. 2.Aglipay, Victor Aguedo E. 3.Agyao, Manuel S. 4.Albano, Rodolfo III T. 5.Alvarez Pantaleon Jr. 6.Almario, Thelma Z. 7.Alvarez, Antonio C. 8.Amante, Edelmiro A. 9.Angping, Rosenda 10.Angping, Maria Zenaida B. 11.Apostol, Jose 12.Arnaiz, George P. 13.Arquiza, Godofredo V. 14.Arroyo, Diosdado M. 15.Arroyo, Ignacio T. 16.Arroyo, Maria Lourdes T.

THE ABSENT A6

New President can live in style but homey House of Dreams

By Margo C. Enriquez
Contributor

IF PRESUMPTIVE PRESIDENT-ELECT Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III doesn't get his way to live in the Aquino family residence on Times Street, there are other alternative Malacañang structures which are not as stuffy as the Palace, and could be homey.

Not well-known to the public, President Macapagal-Arroyo ordered the renovation of Bahay Pangarap (House of Dreams) years ago. Since then, Pangarap has been a vital part of Malacañang social life during her nine-year administration.

Located near the presidential golf course and across the Pasig River, the new Bahay Pangarap is testament to high style on a modest budget. It has a resort ambience, complete with a swimming pool and deck. And—a consolation to the bachelor Aquino, it has only one bedroom, the master bedroom.

"Architect Conrad Onglao refurbished it in Philippine contemporary style, while preserving the elements of the exterior. The thrust is to showcase contemporary Philippine elegance. It is an alternative venue for official occasions," says Jeremy Barnes, former Malacañang Museum director and now National Museum director.

BAHAY D1

'LeGoreda': Fantasy love team sizzling in cyberspace

By Michael Lim Ubac

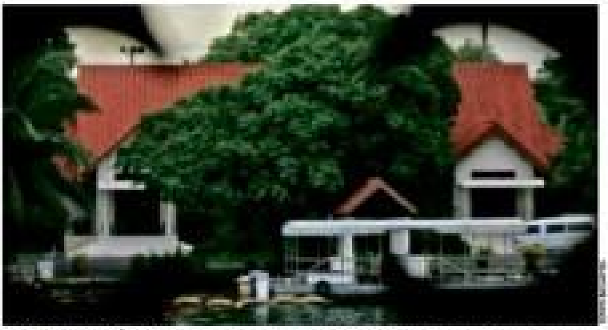
FORGET BRANGELINA, THERE'S A new fantasy love team sizzling in cyberspace.

The likelihood that the newly separated former United States Vice President Albert Gore Jr. and losing vice presidential candidate Sen. Loren Legarda will find themselves in each other's arms next week is titillating users of the Twitter social networking site.

The "future" romantic tandem, unofficially christened "LeGoreda," could rival the star power of Hollywood's most famous unmarried couple, Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie.

Bloggers and Twitter users are trying to play Cupid, saying Gore and Legarda—who both suffered defeat in presidential and vice presi-

'LEGOREDA' A11



NOT QUITE MALACAÑANG If the presumptive president-elect is inclined, he can live in Bahay Pangarap, a renovated one-bedroom spread with a contemporary and resort ambience across the Pasig River that dates back to the late 1930s.

Inquirer digital replica now on iPad

By JV Rufino
Director for Mobile / Inquirer Books

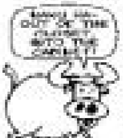
THE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER—in its time-honored layout and format—is now on Apple's iPad tablet device.

Available through the free PressReader application on Apple's iTunes store (http://bit.ly/inquirerdigitalitunes), the digital edition replicates each day's paper exactly as it appears in print—the headlines, news, stories, photos, captions, sections, advertisements and notices.

The digital replica benefits read-

INQUIRER A11

So what's wrong with Boy Abunda?



By Leila B. Salaverria and Kristine L. Alave

THERE'S NOTHING WRONG with appointing a show biz celebrity to a Cabinet position, according to Gabriela Rep. Liza Maza.

Maza came to the defense

SO WHAT'S A6

Bantay Balota morphs into Bantay Gobyerno

By Fe Zamora

BATANGAS CITY—FROM BANTAY Balota (Guarding the Vote) to Bantay Gobyerno (Watching the Government).

Now that the election dust has started to settle, the volunteer campaigners and poll watchers for presumptive president-elect Benigno "Noynoy" Aquino III and his running mate, Manuel "Mar" Roxas II, are ready to take their advocacy to a new level as anti-corruption watchdogs.

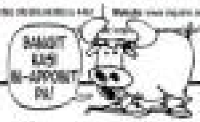
This was the consensus reached in a postelection consultation held on May 29 among the campaign-period People Power Volunteers (PPV), which morphed into the Aquino-Roxas Bantay Balota on Election Day.

The volunteers are distinguished by this largely anonymous service to Aquino's election which they believe will be the advent of good governance. There are so big

BANTAY A11

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FrontPage

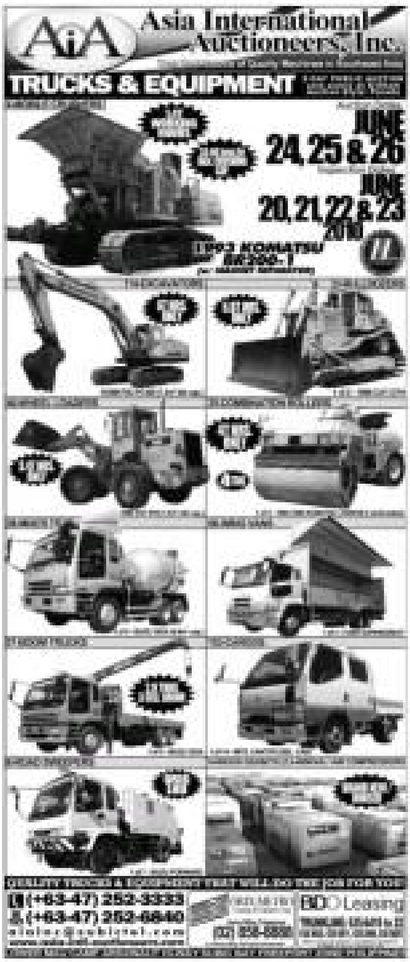


2-D		
15	19	
14	2	
26	3	
SUERTRES		
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SIX DIGIT					
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6/42 LUZ-VIS-MIN					
3	4	5	7	16	26
P51,822,505.80					
6/55 GRAND LOTTO					
9	16	22	29	42	54
P30,000,000.00					

Bangit must go, says Aquino aide

ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) Chief of Staff Gen. Delfin Bangit will not even have to wait for presumptive president-elect Benigno Aquino III to be proclaimed to know what to do.



Reject job offers, Aquino camp tells GMA appointees

GMA will face any suit—Palace




ROBINSONS LUXURIA
Distinction has a new address.
Signa Designer Residences. The first and only designer branded residence in the country.
Signa
Designer Residences
ROBINSONS LAND CORPORATION

Muslims burn Israeli flag in protest

[illegible]

Peace activists and aid workers

[illegible]

Food blockade

[illegible]

Brutal state terrorism

[illegible]

Nation honors OFWs

[illegible]

Abu Sayyaf kills 3 hostages

Ampatuans want judge out





Now they'll come knocking, says Binay camp

Luzon folk told to save rainwater

Asian journalists mark 10th yr

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Meet on cancer set

THE PHILIPPINE Society of Oncology (PSO) is holding its 13th midyear convention on cancer prevention and management on June 26 at the Lung Center of the Philippines in Quezon City.

The program will be suitable for both lay people and medical practitioners. Topics will range from the role of genes, the environment, diet, sleep, physical activity and school health in cancer development to new breakthroughs, including antitumor vaccines.

The role of alternative and complementary medicine will also be discussed in a forum led by experts on these topics. Several cancer support groups will share their stories.

Nonmedical participants will be charged P100.

For details, call the PSO Secretariat at 7226201 loc. 5803.

Palace: Don't look at us; it was also GMA's desire

By TJ Burgonio

'Run after House members'

Praise

THE ABSENT

All information bill hopes are pinned on Noynoy



Damage to taxpayers



GOING, GOING

Plans A and B

'Travesty'

'Darkest day'

So what's wrong with Boy Abunda?

Prelate prefers Gordon

Abunda qualified

Study than run for office

Ai Ai back to school

On the Citizens' Right to Information

A Statement of Hope & Support from the Medical Profession

We are at a special juncture in our history as a nation when every citizen hopes that real change finally comes in governance, in our politics, and in the way we think as a people. The Medical Profession, represented here by the various Medical Societies and Associations listed below, is hopeful that in the desire to address the elements needed to rebuild our nation, everyone - government leaders, heads of corporations, the clergy, private citizens - would put the **HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE FILIPINOS** above all other priorities.

The right to health is one of the fundamental rights enshrined in Article II of our 1987Constitution. Section 15 expressly declares, "the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and as a policy instill health consciousness among them".

The right to health includes the right to education and information. Access to information, including the right to seek, receive and impart information and ideas concerning health issues is considered an integral component of the right to health. We want every citizen to assume responsibility and accountability over his own health. Providing him the right information and education is the most important step in that direction. It is also the most cost-efficient.

As the Philippines embraces the lifestyle of the western world and exposes itself to the ravages of diseases that can otherwise be prevented by adequate information and proper education; and as the healthcare sector strives to improve its capacity to protect the public from ignorance, fear, misinformation, and the overwhelming power of the media, the State must pursue its mandate to inform and educate its citizens, and to protect them from deceptive, unfair and unconscionable sales acts and promotion practices.

The increasing prevalence of lifestyle diseases leading to heart attacks, heart failure, stroke, cancer, HIV infection and AIDS has reached alarming levels that require us to confront their causes without equivocation, and to institute prompt and aggressive interventions. To this end, the DOH under Secretary Esperanza I. Cabral has manifested strength of character and political will by signing AO 2010-0008 and AO 2010-0013 against the odds of fighting Big Business interests. We in the medical profession fully support her and will continue to support her as she takes on bigger tasks for the sake of our nation's health.

This is the kind of resolve we expect from our government servants; this is the kind of leadership we hope to see in the next government.

We fully support AO 2010-0008 signed by Dr. Cabral that provides the correct context and labeling of health and food supplements written in our national language. Health and food supplements are not medicines and should not be advertised as a cure for disease conditions. We have seen patients die of kidney and liver failure because of unregulated use of herbal concoctions; we see countless patients daily who replace their life-protecting medicines with these supplements – with unfortunate outcomes.

"Ang mga health and food supplements ay hindi gamot at hindi dapat gamiting panggamot sa anumang uri ng sakit."

We fully support AO 2010-0013 signed by Dr. Cabral that requires graphic health information on tobacco product packages, to ensure that tobacco product packaging and labeling do not promote tobacco by any means that are false, misleading, deceptive or likely to create an erroneous impression on the effects of smoking.

Tobacco use is a leading cause of death and diseases in the Philippines. At the present time, we need to implement more specific and effective measures to counteract the persistent and pervasive marketing strategies of the tobacco industry in the media, public places and sports and entertainment events. We recognize the real need to counterbalance the 'glamorous' lure of smoking with the reality of lung, throat and cardiovascular diseases that our youth apparently fail to appreciate. Our young people, the future of the nation, must be informed of the real score about smoking that is never highlighted in the cigarette advertisements.

There is a need to fear the consequences of smoking and of irresponsible behavior. The tobacco industry is not likely to take it upon itself to instill such fear. The least that our government can do is to show the public why such fear is warranted. The implementation of AO 2010-0013 is a step in the right direction. Let no negative forces in our society attempt to frustrate this.

We in the medical profession need our government's resolve to deal with the factors that impact our nation's health. We cannot forever be treating what the government can do well to prevent. It frustrates us no end when the solutions to our nation's health problems are right there in front of all of us, but our leaders opt to look the other way. Debates and TROs can go on and on; the truth about health and disease remains the same.

We need all the help we can get from our government leaders, the politicians, the clergy, and the businessmen in putting back the sense of right and wrong, the sense of urgency to deal with real priorities in nation building, and the common sense of addressing our health problems simply and with a sense of duty.

Let us all work together to provide our citizens with the right information and the correct education. Nothing comes out of ignorance but illness and the inability to take care of oneself. We continue to hope for good governance, for the enlightenment of our leaders on the importance of health, and for the best health outcomes that secure the future of our country.

We support nothing less than real leadership.

The Philippine College of Physicians

The Philippine Society of Gastroenterology

The Diabetes Philippines

The Philippine College of Chest Physicians

The Philippine Society of Geriatric Medicine

The Philippine Society of Hypertension

The Philippine Heart Association

The Philippine Society for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases

The Philippine Lipid & Atherosclerosis Society

The Philippine Rheumatology Association

The Philippine Society of Medical Oncology

The Philippine Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism

The Philippine Society of Nephrology

THE STRENGTH OF PHILAM LIFE: THE POWER OF WE

WE are all about security

WE are all about success

WE are all about strength

The Power of We made stronger

WE in action

WE have more to give




Together, we make dreams happen.
That's the Power of We.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION

The Roxas dilemma

EDITORIAL

POLITICAL ANALYSTS WILL BE PORING OVER THE manner in which vice presidential frontrunner Manuel Roxas II knocked Loren Legarda out of the race, only to end up running neck and neck against Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay in what has turned out to be an unprecedented cliffhanger of a contest.

Less of a cliffhanger was the aftermath of the elections when, in the reporting of results, Binay emerged leading Roxas. The lead remained reflected in the official canvassing of votes by Congress. However, Roxas has not conceded the election, basically on two grounds.

The first is that as far as the official canvass is concerned, there remains about a million votes still to be officially counted, which exceed the current lead of Binay over Roxas. The second is the issue of "null votes," that is, what the machines recorded as either no votes cast (the ovals left blank), overvotes (two or more ovals shaded for the vice president slot), or improperly shaded ovals.

Obviously uncontroversial are ballots in which voters, like Joseph Estrada, declined to vote for any vice presidential candidate, or where voters voided the ballot they cast by overvoting. This still leaves the question of whether some voters—voters making a mark for the vice presidency, but the PCOS machines not accepting those votes—justifies going back to the ballots and re-checking the improperly shaded ovals.

The real question, however, is this. In an unquestionably close election, to what extent, and where, should Roxas and his party-mates pursue their insistence on every vote being counted?

Procedurally, it seems clear that Congress, in joint session assembled as the National Board of Canvassers, is not the proper venue. Congress' role is ministerial, virtually ritualistic: it is mandated to officially tabulate results submitted by the Comelec, inquiring only into the completeness and authenticity of the documents submitted by the electoral commission. The venue for questioning the official results is the Supreme Court.

But this presumes that everyone trusts the documents and the agency that produced them.

There is another danger and that is: in pursuing its objections, the Liberals might severely erode not only the credibility of the mandate of whoever would be proclaimed vice president (including Roxas), but also that of the winner of the presidential race. The LP has carefully pointed out that the null votes for the presidency amount to about 1.5 million, while 2.6 million null votes are involved in the vice presidential race.

Clearly even if all the null votes in the presidential contest weren't for the frontrunner, this couldn't alter the results. So logically null votes and the presidential mandate are a non-issue. But in politics as in other human activities, logic doesn't necessarily hold sway. The 2.6 million null votes in a tight vice presidential contest clearly require some sort of resolution; but how, and without inflicting negative consequences by association?

The LP pointed out that the results in a precinct in Datu Odin Sinsuat town in Maguindanao, and in Tabuan-Lasa in Basilan showed Binay getting 99 and 98 percent of all votes, respectively, suggesting a statistically improbable result from the party's point of view. But these arguments are a double-edged sword.

One source from the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao pointed out that Binay got 100 percent of the votes in one clustered precinct (CPR 0654A). Total votes: 63. However, according to the same source, in another clustered precinct (CPF7 0026A) in the same town of Bumbaran, Roxas' running mate, Noynoy Aquino, also got 100 percent of the votes. Total votes: 32.

To give a concrete example of the nuances involved, consider the following information from our source. In one Moro barangay, Kadingilan in Michayup, a town in North Cotabato, the Michayup-wide poll results showed that Estrada got 62.37 percent of the votes. Yet in Clustered Precinct 46, Estrada received only 08.75 percent while Aquino garnered 88.66 percent.

In the end this is about trust: not only in Congress, but in electoral protests filed before the Supreme Court. Roxas faces the dilemma of legitimately fighting not only for himself but also for his voters, or of doing an Al Gore and throwing in the towel for the sake of peace and stability for his running mate, Aquino. Having already sacrificed his ambition for Aquino, he must consider whether he is required to do so again, in order to avoid an acrimonious start for the Aquino presidency.



The party list in Congress

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE REPORT THAT THE BILLIONAIRE MIKEY Arroyo, son of President Macapagal-Arroyo, had been chosen by the Commission on Elections to lead the Ang Galing Pinoy (AGP) party list in Congress was met with howls of protest that have led the office to defer its decision.

The AGP which is a group consisting of security guards, tricycle drivers and farmers who do not even share a community of interests, was declared by the Comelec to be qualified to sit as a non-political member of the House of Representatives and participate in its deliberations.

Yet its leader is a politician of the first order deriving his roots from the highest official in the land. He was an elected individual until he won his first political job as a member of Congress largely through his mother's influence. He and his younger brother Dato, likewise politically always, have found a terrific future in his mother's fortune.

During the waning days of Speaker Jose de Venecia, the two brothers made the decisions for the House of Representatives. When Speaker Prospero Nograles took over, he took care of the formal functions of the office, like answering the telephones and receiving formal guests. Political decisions were left to the brothers.

Now where the question has to do with the incident involving a tricycle driver, the matter deserves the attention of Rep. Mikey Arroyo. A security guard question requires to be settled with the intervention of his friend Mikey. And if a farmer requires payment for his vegetables, it must be done with the help of the leader of the AGP.

All these tasks fall within the ambit of Mr. Mikey Arroyo's responsibilities and should be performed with the earnestness required of a leader of the party list he is supposed to represent. And this is in addition to his legislative tasks as the head of Ang Galing Pinoy, which seems to be his principal function. This also appears to be the reason for the Comelec's recognition of him as the political leader of the AGP.

There is but one difference between the regular members of the House of Representatives and the party list members. The former are elected from the various provinces and chartered cities while the party list representatives are supposed to possess all the qualifications of the elected members except the residence requirement. Thus, the party list member is elected at large like the senators, although not personally. It is the party list that is directly elected, from which the candidate or candidates are chosen according to rank as previously determined by the party list.

Not all successful party lists at the polls are entitled to representation, however. The Constitution provides that the party list representatives shall not make up more than 20 percent of the total membership of the House of Representatives. Nonetheless, those who do make it to the top echelon of party lists get to vote whomever they wish without the direct action of the individual voter.

The non-identification of the proposed choice of the certified party list has been questioned on the ground that the candidate was not categorically elected by the voters. The practice of selecting the representative only through the recommendation of the party list inhibits the supposedly sovereign voter who otherwise has the right to freely choose all other candidates from the president of the Philippines to the members of the barangay council.

It is worth mentioning in this connection that the choice of Mike Velarde as the first nominee although he was listed only as No. 3 by Buhay, and the nomination of Angelo Reyes of 1-Utak are also up for reconsideration—in the latter's case, probably on the ground of over-employment, as he has practically held all Cabinet posts after the presidency of President Joseph Estrada. The qualification of Mikey is also being questioned on the ground that he is under-qualified.

Several party-list groups have filed disqualification petitions against the three nominees on the ground that they already have substantial political power that violates the limitations of the marginalized groups. The Comelec seems to be confused.

In any case, I am against the Comelec adding to the already bedraggled membership of the House of Representatives. The addition of party list members has not improved, but has in fact worsened, the quality of the lower chamber of the Congress of the Philippines. Its record during the administration of President Arroyo has been shabby and with the help of sudden party-list members at that. Their meritorious members can survive on their own and probably join legitimate parties they can even lead. Congress can exist without the unnecessary membership of party list members.

If the government decides to amend the present Constitution, one of the changes I will propose is the abolition of the party list system as completely unnecessary, totally useless and foolishly expensive.

Being-becoming-doing

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY IS TOLD ABOUT A CATECHIST who asked her students: "Why is it that in the 'Our Father,' Jesus taught His disciples to ask the Father to give them their daily bread?" After a long silence, a small boy finally stood up and said: "That's because they did not have refrigerators then!"

* * *

Today is the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, the Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ. Today's gospel is about the multiplication of the loaves and fish. More than the miracle of perishable food, today's gospel lays the foundation for real food that is available, unlimited and non-perishable. Jesus teaches us today that life is not just about having something to eat; life is about mission and doing one's mission.

* * *

Like the disciples, we often operate on the level of the "crowd"—we deal with others in an impersonal, managerial or even manipulative way. The "crowd" is about numbers, while Jesus uplifts us to the personal level—the level of caring, sharing and interacting. As we go through life, may we come to deeper appreciation of our personhood, brotherhood, sisterhood and the fatherhood of God of the whole world.

* * *

Are you a somebody or a someone? A somebody is one who does this and who does that, and goes about doing all sorts of work and functions. A someone, on the other hand, is one who may not be functional but is a presence. A somebody is one who gets things and people moving, while a someone is one who moves the heart.

* * *

The multiplication of the loaves is not just an external, public miracle. There is also another kind of "multiplication of the loaves" which occurs in quiet moments when we come before the quiet, loving presence of God and listen to Him with humble and docile hearts. When we allow God to speak to us, question us, direct us through His WORD and the Eucharist, surely a miracle occurs, and we are fed and nourished in ways which this world could not calculate, appreciate nor understand.

* * *

In a recent pilgrimage in Altötting, Germany, we came across the story of St. Conrad, a Capuchin brother who spent 41 years as a porter, looking after the needs of the many people who called at the friary. He specialized in "door ministry." He was some kind of a point of encounter between his brother monks and the world. All sorts of people would flock to him with all sorts of requests, clinging at the friary door anytime, and they were never sent away empty handed. St. Conrad had a deep love for the Eucharist, which is the door to God's heart. Like Brother Conrad, may we too open our doors to others, especially the poor, the troubled and the needy and frequently find ourselves at the door that leads us to God's presence.

* * *

Some people love the Eucharist and are very devotional. This is wonderful and worth emulating. But why is it that these same people can be so impersonal, proud, selfish, judgmental, dishonest and manipulating? Please remember that the Eucharist is not just for the keeping, but for the giving. The Eucharist is about a direction. More so, it's about being a presence, becoming a better person, and doing one's mission.

* * *

Please pray for us—your priests, ministers of the Eucharist—to be present to God and to our people, to become better persons, and to lovingly do our mission for the Lord and our Blessed Mother. Pray for us that as we minister to people, may we not treat them as a "crowd" but as persons, and humbly allow ourselves to be ministered also. Instead of being cold walls, may we be welcoming open doors. Instead of becoming distant and unavailable, may we become more present and approachable. Instead of becoming mere functionaries, may we do our mission with joy, humility and love. May we become more like Jesus, the eternal High Priest, the Lord of the Eucharist.

* * *

As we prepare for Independence Day (June 12), may some kind of "multiplication of the loaves" happen in our beloved country, the Philippines. For so long now, bread has been captured by a few privileged families, and by many overspending politicians and government officials, and has not quite trickled down to our people. Let us pray for our presumptive president-elect, Benigno Aquino III, that he may be able to make the miracle happen—that is, eradicate poverty and corruption. Actually the miracle can happen only if all of us—with one of us—stop being, becoming, or acting like a crowd, and be, become, and act again as persons. Let there be a multiplication of Noynoy in each one of us!

* * *

Today, let us say—better yet, to sing—with love: "O Sacrament Most Holy, O Sacrament Divine! All praise and all thanksgiving be every moment thine, be every moment thine!"

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be truly present, become a better person and lovingly do my mission. Amen.

War on corruption

With Due Respect

Artemio V. Panganiban



The Republic of Love

Method to Madness

Patricia Evangelista



Government and contraception

At Large

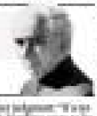
Rina Jimenez-David



The Taliban reborn

World View

Jaswant Singh



Project Syndicate

TALK of the TOWN



LONG LINES ON MAY 10 Voters look for their names on a list while others wait for their turn to cast their ballots at the Rosauro Almario Elementary School in Tondo, Manila.

Learning from shortcomings of automated polls

By Ernesto B. Francisco Jr.

THE MAY 10 ELECTIONS WERE A LEARNING experience for Filipinos. We learned how the Commission on Elections (Comelec), wittingly or unwittingly, made things difficult for the country's first automated national and local polls.

How to disenfranchise voters

How to confuse BEIs

How to ensure that BEIs wouldn't know what to do when PCOS machines conk out

How to let Smartmatic make a lot of savings by not having to buy more PCOS

Bantay Balota morphs

Not just a slogan

Not just gossip



LEGARDA Single parent



GORE Newly separated

'LeGoreda': Fantasy love team sizzling in cyberspace

Similar careers

Both single

Inquirer digital replica now on Apple's iPad



LIKE THE REAL THING

7 days of free issues

Across the NATION

₱20,000 per vote in Samar village

Reports fly thick pols use money, but no probe

TACLOBAN CITY—Election fraud is getting more expensive, it appears, for candidates bent on winning at all costs, even in a village with just 400 voters.

Proclamation

Quiet community



Rugged Cordillera terrain delays census

Mayor faces obstruction of justice rap from cops

UN body names Albay gov 'senior champion'



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON THE PEACE PROCESS
Government of the Republic of the Philippines Peace Negotiating Panel
For Talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front
(GPNP for Talks with the MILF)

Herein below, for publication, are the **Declaration of Continuity for Peace Negotiation Between The Government of the Republic of The Philippines and The Moro Islamic Liberation Front** signed on 03 June 2010, and the **Closure and Transition Statement** delivered by Government Peace Panel Chairman Rafael E. Seguis, the first signed on 03 June 2010, and the second delivered on the occasion of the Signing Ceremony of the GRP-MILF Peace Talks in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 02-03 June 2010.

IN THE NAME OF GOD
THE BENEFICENT, THE MERCIFUL

DECLARATION OF CONTINUITY FOR PEACE NEGOTIATING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC PHILIPPINES AND THE MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT

INQUIRER Mindanao

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Website: [illegible]
Editor [illegible]
Bureau Chief [illegible]

Bloodbath feared in gold-rich area

By Frinston L. Lim
Monkayo, Compostela Valley

BEARING PLACARDS appealing to President Macapagal-Arroyo not to sell their future, thousands of miners, their wives and children braved the heat of the sun and marched along the rugged, dirt roads around this upland village called Mt. Diwalwal on Tuesday.

Their plea was for the government not to proceed with its proposed sellout of the 729-hectare community said to hold at least $36 billion worth of gold reserves.

The protest was the latest ripple about the planned bidding of what remained as the "last source of livelihood" for the community's more than 40,000 people, according to Francisco "Franco" Tito, Diwalwal's firebrand village chief.



A TRUCK that ferries ore from gold tunnels in Diwalwal lies on its back after an accident, which is common in the area, in the gold-rush community's muddy and slippery roads.

Bid-out

For the last eight years, the government has been in control of some of Diwalwal's richest gold reserves. Through the Philippine Mining Development Corp. (PMDC), it has been able to oversee the exploration and development of the 8,100-ha Diwalwal Mineral Reservation Area (DMRA) of which Area 729 is part.

Early last year, several areas within the DMRA and around Area 729 were sold to big mining companies, where most of the small-scale miners used to dig. But the reported entry of multinational companies raised the hackles of residents, miners and local officials.

Tito led the villagers in protesting against the rumored sources, and apparently sensing trouble days ahead due to the massive community opposition, such earlier government attempts did not push through.

"We have been living in relative peace in the last eight years. People seemed contented as everybody has the chance to strike it big by simply working as abanteros (miners) down the shafts. And now, this trouble is apparent," Tito said.

> 'We have been living in relative peace in the last eight years. People seemed contented as everybody has the chance to strike it big by simply working as abanteros (miners) down the shafts….'

Terms of reference

Early this year, local officials and PMDC had reached a somewhat warm understanding as the new mining plan for Diwalwal was approved. The new scheme called for the bidding of parts of the government-controlled gold rush sites, which would now include Area 729.

This was Tito's signal not to allow the area to be part of the bidded-out areas.

Oliver Baculi, PMDC chair, told village officials in a letter in March that the latest venture won't affect the residents in any way. There will be no displacement in existing surface structures as the mining operations will be conducted at the below 800 meters above sea level (asl) area, where local miners are also staking claim, he said.

Under the terms of reference, PMDC said prospective bidders should be Filipino mining companies that are capable of putting up at least P800 million in capital apart from a P800 million in credit line from a Philippine bank.

Such requirements, Tito said, are "soft" even to the so-called "big mining companies" already operating in Mindanao.



A MINER emerges from one of dozens of tunnels in Diwalwal that lead to areas being dug and believed to contain gold ore. Access to Diwalwal's gold deposits have been opened up to small-scale miners but very few families, mainly those with guns and influence, profit heavily from mining.

"With these requirements for the bidding alone, it seems the government is really bent on leaving out the Diwalwal folk in the picture. None of us here can afford that put-up capital, perhaps even if we pool resources," Tito said.

Equal opportunities

For Rodolfo Rodico, a miner and village councilman, Diwalwal's wealth provides everyone the chance to rise in life. "We can send our children to school and if a lowly abantero (miner) is lucky enough and strike a rich vein, he could be wealthy overnight."

Rags-to-riches stories are replete in Diwalwal, where everyone is given equal opportunities as a famous tale "kung maghugo lang [illegible] makakuha," according to Tito.

Officials said the community's sentiment against the planned sellout is serious which the government should consider. They fear mass actions not unlike in the late 1990s could follow if the President will be "stubborn enough" and go on with the bidding.

Colored with blood

In the 1990s, five hundreds of thousands of Diwalwal residents in occupying highways and bridges in Compostela Valley to protest the government's alleged inaction with the peace and environmental problems in the gold-rich mountain.

"We are afraid Diwalwal could be colored with blood again if the selling out happened," Tito warned. "We want peace. But if we will be pushed against the wall, we would be ashamed to back down."

In an open letter to Ms Arroyo, the residents and officials asked her not to push with the bidding and instead let the next administration "decide for the Diwalwal problem."

The village chief accused Ms Arroyo and her "minions" of trying to advance their personal interests for "persistently selling off of Diwalwal."

"What we're asking is for the government to give us a part of Diwalwal where we can eke out a living. We will give what is due for the government, anyway," the official said.

The officials also wrote an open letter to presidential frontrunner Sen. Benigno Simeon "Noynoy" Aquino III, asking him to also consider Diwalwal.

Tito revealed alleged attempts by some groups of silencing him out of the issue by bribing him P5 million. The official did not identify those behind the offer, but he said he wouldn't budge and "will still continue with the fight."

Postponed

Amid the noise against the bidding, PMDC on Monday announced that the bidding would be deferred from June 7 to the end of next month. According to a May 31 board resolution, bidding participants asked the move of schedule "to further study and deliberate on the issues surrounding the venture."

But Tito and his groups are not pleased. "It (bidding resched[ule]) does not change anything. We still stick to our earlier demand. There should be no bidding and let the community and the next administration talk about the matter," he said.



RESIDENTS of Diwalwal take the most common form of transportation in this gold-rush area—motorcycle—carrying their belongings and ore load. Small-scale miners are eking out a living in treacherous tunnels in search for gold in Diwalwal.

Greenbelt 5 mall cited among world's best of the best

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNcil of Shopping Centers (ICSC) has announced that Greenbelt 5 in Makati City has been listed among the top shopping centers in the world at ICSC's Best of the Best awarding ceremony held in Las Vegas, Nevada.

[illegible]



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[illegible] principal Mr. Cesar C. Villareal (left) and science department head Mr. Jameson N. Tan [illegible]

VALENZUELA HIGH

Education powered by the sun

By Beverly T. Natividad

ONE PUBLIC SCHOOL IN Valenzuela City will be getting a little help from the sun in delivering education to its students come the opening of classes on June 15.

[illegible]

New and expensive

[illegible]

FEE to the rescue

[illegible]

CONTINUED ON PAGE A22



Makati's rich villages prepare for disaster

Self reliance

No escape, no exit







Education powered by the sun

Transition team formed for QC turnover

Man gets 13-year jail term for illegal drugs

Makati roads closed 2 days for festivities

Quezon City ready for school opening



GLOBAL Pinoy



Pinoy engineer is UN regional disaster expert

IMAGES OF DEVASTATION SPAWNED BY TROPICAL Storm "Ondoy" in Metro Manila last year filled Jerry Velasquez with memories of his childhood in Malabon.

> Growing up in flood-prone Malabon instilled in Jerry Velasquez a commitment to make the world a safer place to live

A holistic scientist

Video games for kids

All around the world

One million safe schools

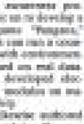
Stop corruption

Missing things Pinoy

Petitioning adopted children: Some reminders

IMFO

Lourdes Santos Tancinco



Adopted children

Natural children

Spare the child from blame



The WORLD



POPE IN CYPRUS

Deng backed Tiananmen bloodshed, says diary

BEIJING—THE FORMER CHINESE LEADER DENG Xiaoping ordered the military to try to limit injuries when it moved against Tiananmen Square protesters 21 years ago, but told it to be ready to "shed some blood" if necessary, according to an unpublished diary said to document internal decisions that led to the violent crackdown.

NYT

WorldBriefs

Israel seizes new Gaza-bound aid ship, says activist

Reuters

US unemployment report sparks global recovery fears

AFP

Florida coast suffers first impact from oil spill

Reuters

Seoul asks UN to respond to ship sinking

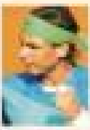
AFP

WHAT'S INSIDE



■ **Pacquiao** wows 'em in New York awards /A28

Sunday SPORTS



■ **King of** clay eyes return to his throne/A30

Loaded Beermen tackle Llamados

Painters hope to rebound vs Realtors



GABE Freeman will provide energy and scoring punch for the Beermen.

Red Lions crush Altas

Mbe shines as Bulldogs turn back RP Youth



Manila edges Cebu; seizes baseball lead

RP finishes 2nd in int'l swim meet

Kaka's fine; England loses Ferdinand








head & shoulders
this summer
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*visible flakes only with regular use

Pacman wows awards crowd in New York



Hatching a plot to save the PBA

IN HUDDLE



Juvic seals seven-shot victory in Thailand



MEMORIAL GOLF

Fowler leads by 3; Woods makes cut

Partners Cup badminton gets going

Anton dominates Hillclimb race again

SPORTSWATCH

Tanui leads San Mig Coffee Run winners

NCA Big Event slated Tuesday



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Blue3
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3 self-adjusting blades for a closer shave in fewer strokes
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Sunday SPORTS

FRENCH OPEN

King of clay eyes return to his throne



Nadal dismisses Melzer, faces old nemesis Soderling for crown

PARIS—THERE'S A LITTLE BLACK SPOT IN RAFAEL Nadal's otherwise spectacular French Open record.



Celtics look to bounce back in Game Two



Gasol plays crucial role as Lakers seek payback

US basketball legend Wooden passes away

Sunday Biz



A taste of home

To earn extra, OFWs may bring Agri Karts back to their host countries



SINCE THE HORDES of Filipinos working or living overseas have turned into an exact science the practice of bringing local goods and delicacies back to their host countries, why not make them earn from selling them, too?

Where to invest

Helping OFWs

Good for home folks

From 25 to over 1,000

Big brothers extend helping hands



Be the one: Serve

A LEADER'S WAY



John C. Maxwell

Train of tragedy

Choosing to get up

Questions for reflection

Big brothers give boost to little brothers

Proper tools

More partnerships

In clustering, farmers find strength, faith in their abilities

Knowledge centers

Best practice dissemination

Bad experience

Korea surplus choking the life out of RP billiards trade



Bonsai production: A well just waiting to be tapped





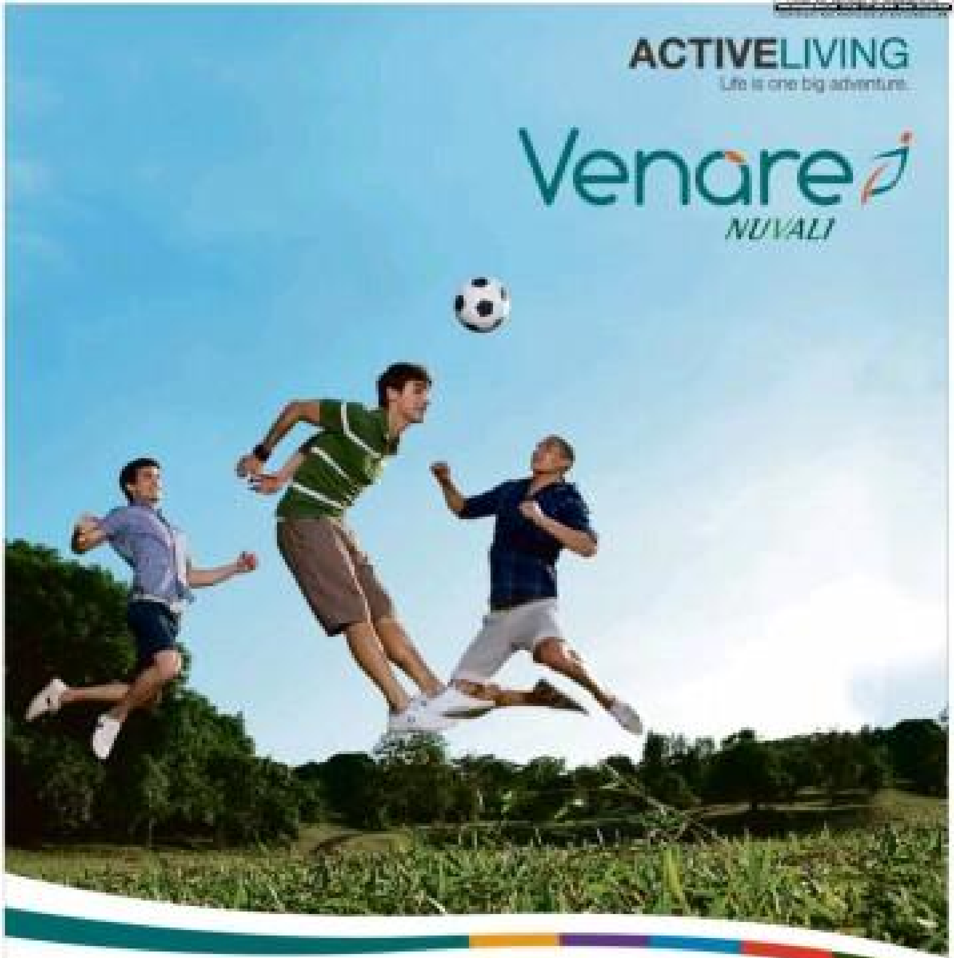




Big brothers give boost . . .

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

IN THIS ISSUE

■ 'Twilight' saga spawns new novella–minus Bella F1



MALACAÑANG'S location in Metro Manila is actually good, situated within a curve on the map.

Why Malacañang 'feng shui' is bad–and what to do

'The Pasig River's dirty water makes it doubly negative. Two rows of trees on both sides of the river will shield the Palace from the negative energy'

HOW BAD IS THE FENG shui of the Malacañang Palace that presumptive President-elect Benigno Simeon "Noynoy" Aquino III refuses to stay there once he assumes office on June 30?

Why Malacañang 'feng shui' is bad—and what to do

> 'But it's the leader himself or the people around him who can bring bad or good feng shui to Malacañang'

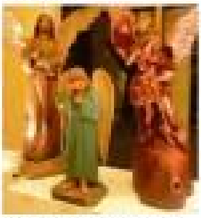




Angels on exhibit

> 30 borrowed pieces from private collectors make up 'A Journey of Faith'





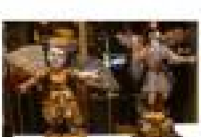












POEA marks Migrant Workers' Day

[illegible]

Teachers' workshop

[illegible]

Jewelry-making seminar

[illegible]

WHAT'S UP

Pinoy-Japanese fusion cuisine demo

[illegible]

Livelihood campaign

[illegible]

HIS WORLD

'I was a back-up singer for Barry Manilow as a teenager!'

T'N'T Trends & Trendings



ArAnn San Diego



And more revelations from renowned photographer and beauty expert Nigel Barker









Sunday LifeStyle



Times Street? Arlegui Mansion? Add to the choices this renovated guest house across the Pasig River —a Malacañang lifestyle with resort feel, and with only one bedroom

Jollibee's 'langhap-sarap' Yumburger awarded as Most Pinoy Burger

The Yumburger received a special citation as successful Filipinized version of hamburger at 'Sooo Pinoy (Evolving Filipino Flavors): National Search for the Ultimate Pinoy Dish'

By Fran Katigbak

"LANGHAP-SARAP"—translate this into any other language and risk losing its essence. The phrase aptly describes the food of homegrown fast-food chain Jollibee.

The restaurant's menu is built on flavors that could very well define Pinoy comfort food—mouthwatering burgers, fries, fried chicken, spaghetti, desserts—and more adapted to suit the Filipino palate.

Some 700-plus branches here and overseas attest to Jollibee's popularity.

Last year, the branch opening in Queens, New York, attracted so much anticipation from the Fil-Am community that even The New York Times couldn't help but notice.

Mark Foggin wrote in an article published Feb. 15, 2009: "The Filipino-American community centered in Woodside, Queens, has been eagerly awaiting the opening of a Filipino fast-food chain restaurant called Jollibee, and describing its dishes in breathless, almost reverent tones."

Soul food

To emphasize his point, Foggin quoted two respondents who summed up how most Pinoys feel about Jollibee: "This is the taste of my childhood" and "this is Filipino soul food."

The Yumburger is one such soul food from Jollibee's menu. Who could forget the taste and aroma of the signature beef patty in between soft, warm buns oozing with burger dressing in every bite!

Brand manager Kay Segismundo said the Yumburger fits the Pinoy palate so well because of its familiar taste. "It all starts with the burger patty, which is tasty, not bland, complemented by a special burger dressing," she explained.

Sooo Pinoy
The national search for the ultimate Pinoy dish

Burger variants

Over the years, the yum burger has been developed into such variations as Yum, Yum with Cheese, Yum with TLC (tomato, lettuce, cheese) and double-patty versions.





Heavyweight versions like Champ and, available in select markets, Amazing Aloha are also offered. Made with 100% pure beef, 1/3-lb patty, both are ideal for those with heavy appetites.

Coming up with variants didn't mean Jollibee has deviated from the Yumburger recipe that clicked so well with Filipinos.

"The original langhap-sarap goodness that Pinoys have grown to love for over 30 years is still the same goodness that people enjoy in every bite of our Jollibee Yumburger," said Segismundo.

"From the preparation to the sourcing of ingredients, Jollibee has always maintained the same high standard of quality and taste to ensure that we only give the best products to our customers."

The Jollibee Yumburger recently received a special citation as successful Filipinized version of the hamburger at the culminating event of the campaign "Sooo Pinoy (Evolving Filipino Flavors): National Search for the Ultimate Pinoy Dish."

The campaign, sponsored by Unilever Foodsolutions in partnership with the Department of Tourism and Inquirer Lifestyle, was aimed at finding the people's favorite Pinoy dish among 10 uniquely Filipino dishes through SMS and online voting. It also sought to promote the beauty and versatility of Pinoy cuisine.

"We are honored and happy that our Yumburger received this special citation under the Sooo Pinoy campaign," said Cuadrante.

"It is a testament to Jollibee's continuing commitment to offer products that are suited especially for the unique Pinoy palate."

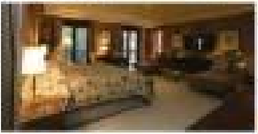






Bahay Pangarap: Another option for Noynoy

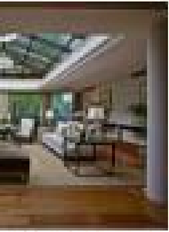




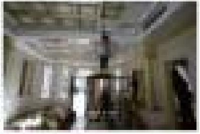


















Book on old Cebu features over 600 photos

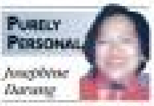

Cebu Cebu
Jaime Picornell



Exquisite lady

Rare photos

One-woman play 'Miracle in Rwanda' to open in Manila


Purely Personal
Josephine Darang



Teaching catechism

Feast of the Sacred Heart

San Lorenzo Ruiz at Naia

17 years of priesthood



Sto. Niño de Faire

POEA to mark "Migrant Workers' Day"

Celebrate Independence Day with a heritage weekend



Sunday LifeStyle

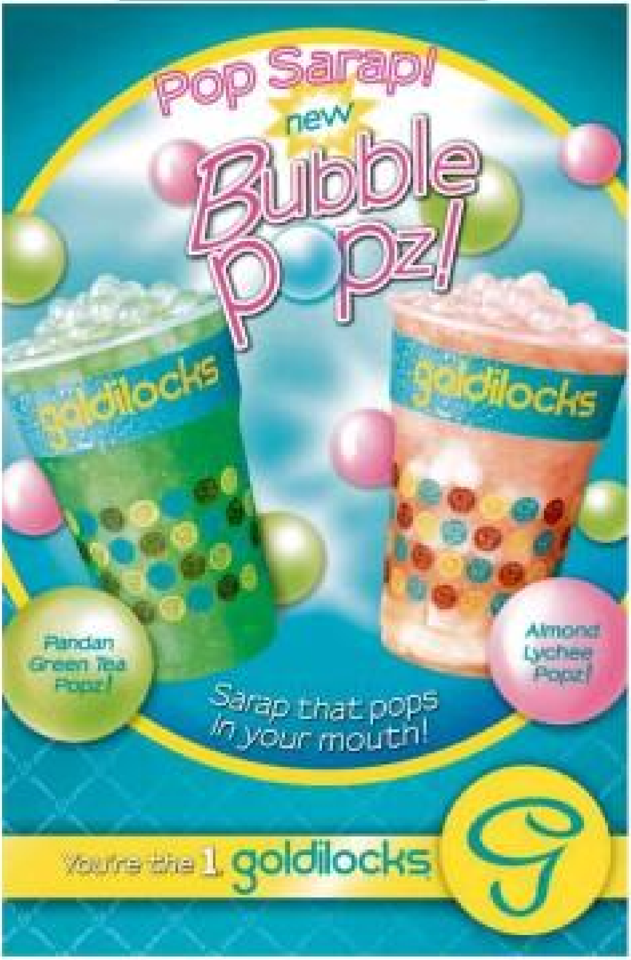


Full circle

I sank into a pleasant stupor of oil and massage. Soon I was reminiscing on the different stages of life I had written about... Indeed, the end of life repeats the very beginning

By Gilda Cordero-Fernando

HAVING TWISTED my knee, I couldn't go out for days and days and days. I decided to make the most of it and asked my washerwoman, who is also my masahista, to pull a cot out to the garden and give me a massage.

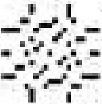






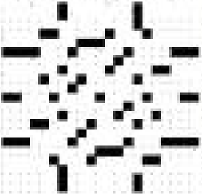
Full circle





Sunday Crossword







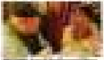
Gilda in excelsis

Annie Ramanghakal fades beside GCF



Unpredictably creative

Convivial Pinay



Why Gilda is our National Artist

How the world is saddened by the divorce of Al and Tipper Gore

ROOTS AND WINGS



Cathy Babao Guballa

Late-stage divorces



Should an emotionally battered wife leave her family?

EMILY'S POST



Emily A. Marcos

The best jazz and hiphop classes in town

New radio station launched in Boracay





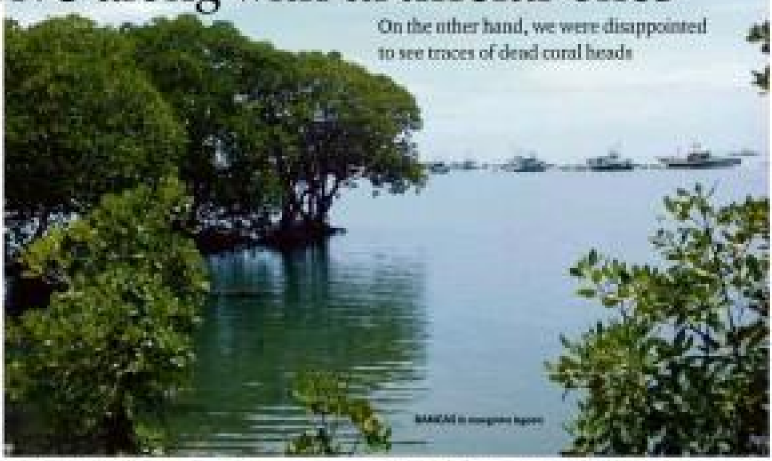
IN THIS ISSUE

- **Discovering the mystic charms** of Peru, Brazil and Argentina with my Tropa Chica /G1

Sunday LIFESTYLE

'Twilight' saga spawns new novella–minus Bella

Calatagan—where natural reefs thrive along with artificial ones



On the other hand, we were disappointed to see traces of dead coral heads

WITH MY DIVE buddies Ramon and Dennis Nalgal, and with guest diver and friend Ed Hon-[illegible], I drove to Calatagan recently for a dive excursion.

[illegible]



Hunting ground

[illegible]

History

[illegible]





Overfishing

[illegible]

Second dive

[illegible]

'Twilight' saga spawns new novella–minus Bella

By Ryanna C. Burgos

A VAMPIRE WHO DIES SHORTLY after she is introduced in Stephenie Meyer's novel "Eclipse" is resurrected by the best-selling Illinois author in her first new book in two years.

Meyer's "The Short Second Life of Bree Tanner: An Eclipse Novella" is told from the perspective of Bree, who has been a vampire for about three months.

The 192-page story, an offshoot of the third novel in Meyer's best-selling teen vampire "Twilight" saga, has a first printing of 1.5 million. It's the first new Twilight title since "Breaking Dawn," Book 4, was published two years ago.

The "Twilight" novels are told from the perspective of Bella, who falls in love with the vampire Edward Cullen.

Newborn vampire

Bree Tanner has a slight build with chin-length dark hair and bright red eyes, indicating her newborn status and also her diet of human blood. She was 15 at the time she was turned into a vampire. Her creator was Victoria, the red-headed girlfriend of James who was killed by the Cullens at the end of "Twilight."

What makes Bree special is that she's the only newborn vampire to snap out of the blood frenzy and surrender. She's granted mercy by the Cullens, specifically Carlisle who doesn't see the point in useless killing.

Unfortunately for Bree, the Volturi finally get around to acting on the news of a newborn brood in Seattle, Washington. They send Jane as their representative in this matter. She and her entourage of Volturi guards arrive on the scene and see to the cleanup just after the battle between the newborns and Team Forks (the Cullens and werewolves).

After questioning Carlisle about the newborn army, Jane notices Bree with her cruel gaze. Bree quickly gives her name and the fact that she never saw Victoria, only Riley, her right hand. Bree also reveals that the army was under the assumption that the Cullens were going to destroy them. This attack was meant to be preemptive, or so they thought.

They were also promised a reward for successfully killing the Cullens and Bella. The reward: the city of Forks and all the humans in it to appease their terrible thirst.

Jane reminds the Cullens that the Volturi offers no second chances to anyone who breaks the rules, even if they don't know there are rules to obey. Bree is killed by Felix on Jane's command.

Bree's last 7 days

"The Short Second Life of Bree Tanner" is pretty much contained in the last week of the newborn's existence before the big fight between the Cullens and the vampire army in "Eclipse." It's the last week before Bree dies.

"I never intended to publish this story as a stand-alone book. I began this story a long time ago before 'Twilight' was even released. Back then I was just editing 'Eclipse', and in the thick of my vampire world. I was thinking a lot about the newborns, imagining their side of the story and one thing led to another. I started writing from Bree's perspective about those final days, and what it was like to be a newborn," Meyer says in her new book.

> 'The Short Second Life of Bree Tanner' is told from the perspective of a young vampire who dies early on in 'Eclipse'

"Later, when the concept for 'The Twilight Saga: The Official Guide' came up, I thought that might be a good place for Bree. Her story is a nice complement to 'Eclipse'. It explains a lot of the things that Bella never knew. So I cleaned it off and finished it up for placement in the 'Guide.'"

Some plot points from the novella have made their way into the "Eclipse" film, starring Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart, which opens June 30. The character of Bree is played by Canadian actress Jodelle Ferland.

"Melissa Rosenberg, the screenwriter] had a ton of questions about what exactly was going on in Seattle, how Victoria managed things, what Riley was like, etc. I let her read what I had then, and later gave the whole thing to the director, David Slade. David asked if Xavier, Bryce and Jodelle (Riley, Victoria and Bree) could read it as well, so all the parties involved would end up having a really strong foundation for their characters before the cameras started rolling," Meyer says.

Paranormal romance

Even though Meyer "can't write worth a darn," according to another best-selling author Stephen King, she got a whole new generation interested in vampires and reinvented the romantic myth around them.

She's one of the most successful of a new breed of writers who have flourished in a subgenre known as paranormal romance where the love—and the sex—is often out of this world.

So are the profits.

In less than five years, Meyer has become a worldwide publishing phenomenon. The "Twilight" saga's translation rights have been sold in nearly 50 countries and 100 million copies have been sold worldwide.

"The Short Second Life of Bree Tanner: An Eclipse Novella" will be launched today, 2 p.m., at the SM City North Edsa Entertainment Plaza. The book is available at National Book Store.



Milestones

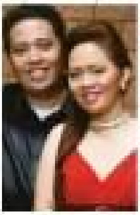
We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the Inquirer, P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.



ARRIETA-SACRO

Joseph S. Arrieta, son of Rosalinda and Susano Arrieta, recently tied the knot with Mary Grace S. Sacro, daughter of Andres and Susan Sacro, in the National Shrine of Sacred Heart in Makati City. Reception was in the Pacific Hotel in Makati. Officiating priest was Fr. Elmer Allan Nicholo. Photo and video coverage was Ariel Davidosa. Hair and make-up was by Michelle Leyco and Rhiain Reda. The bridal gown was designed by Edward Wong. Amazing Angel was overall coordinator.





BERMUDEZ-ZAMBRANO

Jocelyn Zambrano, daughter of Jocelito and Marilyn Zambrano, will marry Genie Bermudez, son of Ramon and Melanie Bermudez, on June 26 at the Nuestra Señora de Gracia Church in Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City. Reception will follow at The Alliance, The Gyptus Tower, Taguig City. The wedding will be coordinated by Mau Suarin of Events Plus. The bride will wear an ivory white bustier ballgown made of duchess satin and layers of crystal organza highlighted by beaded crystal embellishments on the bustier.

RWM Celebrates Festival of Flowers and Fashion with La Flora de Mayo



NEWPORT CITY, PASAY – Resorts World Manila (RWM) held its first ever La Flora de Mayo in commemoration of the Queen of all Festivals in the Philippines, the Flores de Mayo. Last May 28, a procession featuring the most beautiful ladies in town made its way around Newport City, clad in terno created by top designers in the country.

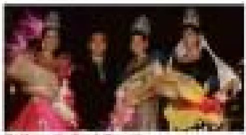
This colorful display of flowers, fashion and beauty started at Newport Plaza and progressed to the St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, where the queens of the parade made an offering to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Bishop Tumulak was present to bless the queens and their escorts. The procession was witnessed by nearly a thousand spectators and guests.

The event concluded with a beauty pageant at the Newport Plaza where Plumigue provided the entertainment for the all-night celebration.

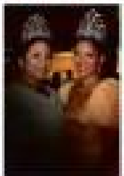
Join Resorts World Manila for more colorful events and parades! Resorts World Manila is located across NAIA Terminal 3, at Newport Boulevard, Newport City, Pasay, Metro Manila. For more information, call 836-6333 or visit rwmanila.com.

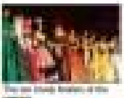


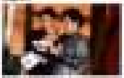
St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish where the reginas made their offering to the Blessed Virgin Mary

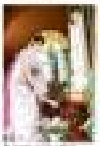


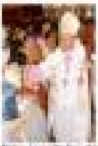








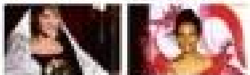






The Queens with their escorts





Haven and refuge Bonifacio Global City

ArthaLand's Arya Residences seeks to be an oasis but with all the amenities of cosmopolitan living

By Marge C. Enriquez

Amid the stressful Metro Manila environment, property developer ArthaLand's condominium project is cutting-edge green. Not only that, it will provide a self-contained environment that serves as a haven in the busy metropolis.

[illegible]



The Plaza redefines outdoor living and areas of community.

Culture of socializing

[illegible]

Outdoor living 24/7

[illegible]



An architectural collaboration between Cross Partners Architecture Studios and Aidea Philippines, The Arya Residences towers offer two [illegible], with only a maximum of 18 units per floor.

Going for the gold

[illegible]



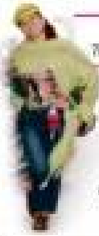
The Terrace above the canopy is a haven for rest, recreation and socializing exclusive to Arya's residents.

Sunday Lifestyle


PANORAMIC view of Iguazu Falls from the Brazil side


TROPA Chica jump shot in front of The Pink Palace in Argentina

Discovering the mystic charms of Peru, Brazil and Argentina with my Tropa Chica



TESSA!
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

The group opted to take the route via LA so we could shop in Target

HALF OF THE YEAR HAS drifted by. Standing right in the middle of 2010, I am thinking of my New Year's resolutions and I can't remember what they are. I do recall wanting to visit new destinations with my South Africa traveling buddies.

Well, after months of planning by our ever efficient Tropa Chica leader Baba Gamboa, we discovered the mysterious beauty of South America covering three countries: Peru, Brazil and Argentina.

Since Brazil and Peru do not require visas, we just needed to secure our Argentinian visa. Thanks to its Consul General Miguel Bustamante, we were assisted conveniently in getting all our visas on time.

Traveling to that side of the world is quite a distance. The group opted to take the route via LA so we could also shop in Target and send balikbayan boxes on the way home. The direct flight on Philippine Airlines is simply the best. After an all-nighter farewell partying, I slept throughout the flight.

With lots of Pinoys residing in LA, we were able to catch up with a few Filipino friends like Oscars designer Oliver Tolentino, actress G Toengi and stylish mom Bessie Ng Wong. Unfortunately, the overnight stop was too quick to enjoy nonstop retail.

Our South America leg started in Peru but we had to reroute our trip because Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, was still closed due to the massive flooding two months before.

Since it was one of the highlights of the trip, we decided to work around its opening so we could visit this ancient mystic civilization. So after a quick tour of Peru's capital Lima including speed shopping in the Inca Market, we were taking another plane ride to Brazil for a couple of days.

With sun and sun and some sexy Brazilian bikinis in our suitcases, we headed for our next destination, Argentina where we spent a third of our trip. Buenos Aires is the heart of Tango, exquisite beef and everything Evita Peron!

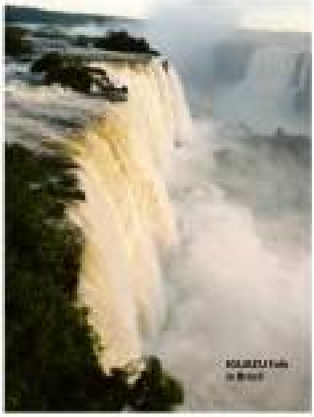
Considered to be the Paris of South America, the culture and people seem to be

BROWSING G3







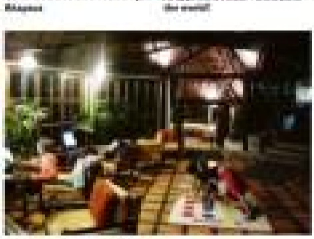


Discovering the mystic charms of Peru, Brazil and Argentina with my Tropa Chica









From page G1

Recoleta Cemetery





Passport renewal















Prime Treat for Dad



ON FATHER'S DAY, LET the master of the house have a Father's Day lunch or dinner offering at 22 Prime.

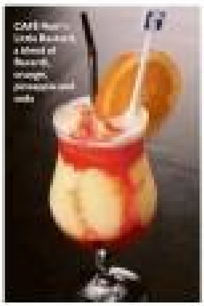
Treat Dad on his special day







Smorgasbord of dishes







Must-have picks for Dad



MAKE FATHER'S DAY SPECIAL with Marks & Spencer's pick of the must-have gifts.







MOVING TOWARDS MERCURY-FREE HEALTH CARE

MERCURY-FREE HEALTH CARE BY 2010

The Department of Health's Administrative Order 21 seeks to phase out mercury-containing health care devices and be replaced with alternatives by September 2010.

We all have used mercury-based medical devices for many years because these are tried and tested instruments for accurate measurement. However, a growing number of hospitals, medical practitioners, and organizations are moving towards a mercury-free health care industry due to the health and environmental risks this metal poses.

Whether it's spillage from production, breakage during use, or toxic waste from disposal, we can be exposed to dangerous levels of mercury. Here are some basics on the M-word from Watsons.

WHAT IS MERCURY?

Mercury is a naturally occurring heavy metal, which is toxic in both low and high doses. It is silvery white when in its liquid form at room temperature, and readily vaporizes into the atmosphere. Mercury waste that has accumulated in lakes, rivers, and ocean sediments is equally toxic as it transforms to methyl mercury.

HEALTH RISKS

In the health care industry, mercury is found in many thermometers, blood pressure monitors or sphygmomanometers, esophageal dilators, dental amalgam, and other measuring devices.

When these break - take for example the fragile, highly breakable glass of thermometers, mercury can be life threatening, if not fatal. We may not know it, but mercury vapor can be inhaled or absorbed through the skin, and liquid mercury can get in contact with the skin and lead to lung damage at high doses. Lower doses can lead to damage to the kidneys, nervous, digestive, respiratory, and immune systems.

Methyl mercury from discarded toxic waste is specifically harmful to infants and children because it impairs neurological development. Exposure to this by pregnant women may result in birth defects of the fetuses they are carrying.

SAFER, AFFORDABLE, AND ACCURATE ALTERNATIVES

With this increasing awareness, efforts have been made globally to substitute mercury-based medical devices with safer, yet affordable and accurate alternatives with global organizations like Health Care without Harm (HCWH), the World Health Organization, and the United Nations Environment Programme leading the cause.

Countries in the European Union, as well as some states in the United States have banned the use of mercury-based thermometers and blood pressure monitors, replacing these with equally accurate devices such as aneroid sphygmomanometers and digital thermometers.

In Southeast Asia, the Philippines has taken steps in gradually phasing out mercury in health care. The Department of Health's Administrative Order 21 (AO 21), which took effect on September 11, 2008, has paved the way for a two-year phase out of mercury medical devices that use toxic mercury and replace these with alternatives by September 2010.



Keep your family safe with a mercury-free environment.



It's inside that the extremely toxic, life-threatening mercury is encased in a fragile, highly breakable glass.



Mercury-free alternative: Omron SEM-1 Automatic Blood Pressure Monitor.

HELPING BUILD A SAFER HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AT WATSONS

In support of a safer, mercury-free health care system, Watsons Pharmacy has partnered with Health Care Without Harm - Southeast Asia (HCWH-SEA), a coalition of more than 470 organizations in 53 countries.

With its aim to transform the health care sector worldwide without compromising patient safety or care, HCWH-SEA encourages households, clinics, hospitals, and other health care facilities to use mercury-free thermometers and blood pressure monitors. It also conducts lectures discussing the harmful effects of mercury-containing products in strategic locations.

On its part, Watsons supports the advocacy by refraining from selling mercury-containing equipment, and making available alternatives like digital thermometers and BP monitors in its stores.

Watsons Pharmacy also has a tie-up with Omron in its efforts to donate 5,000 mercury-free thermometers and 50 blood pressure monitors to 50 government health facilities. This is, however, just the beginning, and much more is needed to support other government hospitals.

As such, Watsons plans to "adopt" more hospitals, and will be raising funds from May 1 to June 30 to donate digital thermometers to 50 government hospitals.

Shoppers can help support the cause when they buy items from participating brands. These include Decolgen and Centrum multivitamins, Flanax pain reliever, Xenical weight loss drug, [illegible] and [illegible] Pharma products, Biogesic, Efficascent Oil, as well as Anlene specially formulated dairy products, [illegible] and Gatorade drinks.

Other participating brands are Accu-Chek blood sugar meters, Omron Sem-1 and [illegible] BP monitors, Ciba Vision contact lenses and solutions, ATC, Champion [illegible] Group Corporation, [illegible], Moltex and Huggies Diapers.

What's more, a minimum P150 purchase of products from participating brands entitles shoppers to a 25% discount coupon when they buy their own Watsons digital thermometer.



Switch to mercury-free medical devices for a healthier environment.



For a minimum P150 purchase worth of participating brands, get a 25% discount coupon for a Watsons digital thermometer.



Watsons supports the phase out of mercury-based thermometers and blood pressure monitors by making available digital alternatives.

PHARMACY SCHOLARSHIPS FROM WATSONS AND SM

As part of its advocacy to create change in community practice, Watsons Pharmacy joined SM Foundation in its Pharmacy Scholarship Employment Program.

Through this partnership with SM Foundation's College Scholarship program, a grant of [illegible] Pharmacy scholarships has been initiated. The first of these has been awarded to the Centro Escolar University School of Pharmacy, where [illegible] students are enrolled in the school year 2010-2011.

Aside from the academic assistance, the scholars will also be given the opportunity to be employed directly at Watsons Pharmacy, where they can begin their career and become professional community pharmacists. This will also entitle them to more training and development programs that will help build their competence in the community pharmacy practice by changing their roles from traditional dispensers to holistic health and wellness counselors in the community.

Watsons is the first institution awarded as a CPE (Continuing Pharmacy Education) accredited provider by the Professional Regulation Commission Board of Pharmacy.



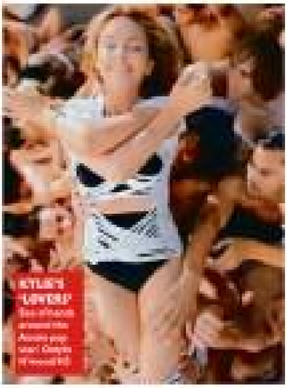
Watsons Philippines Operations Controller [illegible], SM Foundation Executive Director for Education Linda Atayde, SM Foundation Executive Director Debbie Sy, Watsons Philippines Chief Operating Officer Robert Sun, Centro Escolar University School of Pharmacy Dean [illegible], and Watsons Philippines Health Business Unit Director [illegible] with the program's scholars.

ENTERTAINMENT

False Bossing online

2 men, 2 kids and Mylene

OVERHEARD



KYLIE'S 'LOVERS'



Jin Cruz · MYLENE Dizon · PAOLO Paraiso


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MARKET! MARKET!
TRINOMA
MARQUEE
MARQUEEMALL



Kylie Minogue and her 'Lovers' on the street where we live

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD



Ruben V. Nepales

It has been described as 'a make-out flash mob'



Music video shoot

Looking for love, like everyone else

From page H4

the '70s and '80s. But lots of the newer, more original pieces, they're meant to be kind of a rejection of what people view about women. I guess I'm a feminist. And I want to change the way people view women and change ... Marina Abramovic, the performance artist, she seems to be quite fearless and she seems to say that somehow she or we create our own limits.

Is there any boundary you won't cross?

I'm not interested in violence. I don't like negativity. I don't like prejudice. I don't believe in hatred in music.

You said that you don't touch cocaine anymore. Was it hard to stop doing it?

No, it wasn't. By the time that I had stopped doing it, it was ruining my life. I kind of just threw it away, I guess.

British tabloids say you walked into a local pub in Birmingham. You had a few drinks and picked up everybody's tab when you left. True?

Yes. What's wrong with buying a few friends a beer?

You're now in the midst of a massive world tour. What is that pressure like?

It's a wonderful pressure. It's adrenaline. I'm so blessed. I look out into the audience and I scream and cry and we sing, cheer and dance. I can't believe like 17,000 people singing my lyrics.

If you weren't in show business, what do you think you'd be doing?

I would be dead.

Many articles about you mention comparisons, parallels with Madonna. What do you think of her?

I think Madonna is great. She's been a wonderful friend, very kind, supportive and amazing. You know, I get compared to so many people ... But on another level, it's kind of funny because my mother actually looks sort of like Madonna. And the older I've gotten, I look more and more like my mother. So sometimes I just want to say, "It's not my fault that I look like her."

> 'It's not my fault that I look like Madonna ... she's great'

Did you have fun doing that skit with her on "Saturday Night Live"?

We had a blast. We were laughing. We're both quite militant about rehearsals. So we were driving everybody crazy, rehearsing over and over and over again ... But she is so great. And there can never be another. So I have to think of even more ways to stomp and shock everyone. Because she's done everything.

You said that your song "Poker Face" from "The Fame" is about your own bisexuality. How do you deal with that?

I deal with it just fine. I'm looking for love just like everyone else, Larry. But right now, love is in the form of my fans. Love comes in many different forms. Right now, I'm passionately only serving them.

Want to have children?

Yes, someday. Although my womb is not yet beckoning for a child. I'm very far away from that day. I'm also sure God is still with my creativity.

Do you enjoy fame?

Do I enjoy fame? I enjoy my fans. My fans are something I could never trade or even dream of giving up. But there are many things that come with it that I perhaps do not enjoy. You know, at the end of the day, I would much rather not go to the Hollywood party. I would much rather go to the pub around the corner and buy anyone a drink.